

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-07

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R 250740Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6895

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR, TZ, LT

SUBJECT : VISIT OF KING MOSHOESHOE

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 3749 AND 3791 (NOTAL)

1. LESOTHO KING MOSHOESHOE II LEFT DAR ES SALAAM FOR KINSHASA NOVEMBER 21 AFTER 11 DAY STATE VISIT (EXTENDED MIDWAY FROM ORIGINAL FIVE DAYS) TO TANZANIA. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY 11-MAN DELEGATION HEADED BY FONMIN KOTSOKOANE. IN ADDITION ATTENDING USUAL CEREMONIAL EVEMYS, MOSHOESHOE TOURED NORTHERN GAME PARKS, VISITED ZANZIBAR, AND (DURING EXTENSION) MADE VISITS TO UJAMAA VILLAGES, FACTORIES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS NEAR DAR ES SALAAM AND IN TANGA AREA TO NORTH.

2. SPEAKING AT STATE BANQUET SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL, MOSHOESHOE POINTEDLY ALIGNED HIS COUNTRY, MORALLY AT LEAST, WITH AFRICAN

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MAJORITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN AFFAIRS. HE DENOUNCED SOUTH AFRICAN

APARTHEID AND NOTED THAT DESPITE ITS INDEPENDENCE LESOTHO, AS AN ENCLAVE INSIDE SOUTH AFRICA, HAD TO BE "VIGILENT LEST WE FIND OUR FREEDOM COMPROMISED AND OUR IDENTITY THREATENED. SPECIFICALLY, WE HAVE TO GUARD AGAINST BEING INSULTED AS A GLORIFIED BANTUSTAN FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF APARTHEID." HE WELCOMED FORTHCOMING INDEPENDENCE OF MAOZAMBIQUE, AND RECALLED THAT LESOTHO HAD SENT GOODWILL MISSION THERE OFFERING MORAL AND DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT. HE REITERATED THAT LESOTHO CONSIDERED RHODESIA TO BE BRITISH RESPONSIBILITY, AND SAID THAT LITTLE TIME REMAINED FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. EVEN WITH SOUTH AFRICAN SUPPORT, "REBEL SMITH REGIME . . . CANNOT INSULATE ITSELF AGAINST THE HURRICANE OF CHANGE" SWEEPING THROUGH AFRICA. FINALLY, HE DESCRIBED SOUTH AFRICAN PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA AS ILLEGAL, URGING THAT TERRITORY BE ALLOWED TO RESOLVE ITS DESTINY UNDER UN AEGIS AFTER SOUTH AFRICAN PULLOUT, AND CRITICIZING SOUTH AFRICAN EFFORTS TO FRAGMENT THE TERRITORY.

3. COMMENT: BOTH LENGTH OF VISIT IN TANZANIA AND TONE OF MOSHOESHOE'S REMARKS SUGGEST A DESIRE TO STRESS THAT LESOTHO IS PART OF MAINSTREAM OF INDEPENDENT AFRICAN THOUGHT AT TIME OF INCREASING AFRICAN MILITANCY

AGAINST WHITE RULE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. TANGOV GAVE KING ROYAL WELCOME, WITH FIRST VICE PRESIDENT JUMBE OR PRIME MINISTER KAWAWA ACCOMPANYING HIM DURING MOST OF HIS TRAVELS; PRESUMABLY, THEREFORE, HIS CREDENTIALS AS GENUINE AFRICAN HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED.
CARTER

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